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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Update 3 – 3:30 p.m.

City makes permanent repair to NEI break off Pine Grove Drive

A break in the Northeast Interceptor (NEI) pipeline has been permanently repaired. The repair was made early this morning and cleanup efforts are underway today.

The break was about 800 feet to the west of Pine Grove Drive across the road from Pump Station 34 in the swampy, wooded area near Hewlett's Creek. **Pine Grove Drive from Greenville Loop Road to Holly Tree Road is now reopened.**

The city estimates that approximately 655,000 gallons spilled after a low flow alarm triggered Sunday morning. Crews were able to make a temporary repair Sunday night and stopped most of the waste water flow, but had to wait until Monday night to make the permanent repair.

Because there is no other pipe to divert the waste water to, repairs take place when waste water flowing through the pipe is at its lowest point, usually from about midnight to around 5 a.m.

During the repair operation, crews discovered that the pipe had previously been damaged and repaired. The original repair, believed to have been done about 20 years ago, was not done or known about by the city.

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For more information, contact city Public Information Officer Malissa Talbert at 342-2736 or 470-8720.